

HONORING THE SERVICE OF DR.
JOSEPH R. FINK

HON. LYNN C. WOOLSEY

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 22, 2011

Ms. WOOLSEY. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Dr. Joseph R. Fink and recognize his contribution to higher education and community involvement in Marin County, California. Dr. Fink is retiring as the President of Dominican University of California.

It has been my privilege to work closely with Dr. Fink for many years, during which time his friendship and assistance have been invaluable. Under his leadership Dominican has established itself as a successful university with high ideals and a big vision. Establishing the Green MBA Program and the Center for Sustainability, Dominican University has emerged as an innovative school whose students are working to develop creative solutions to some of the world's toughest problems.

Dr. Fink earned a doctorate in American History from Rutgers University and began his career as an Associate Professor of History and Assistant to the President at a small liberal arts college. Before coming to Dominican University, he served as Dean of Arts and Sciences at the City Colleges of Chicago, president of a public college in New Jersey, and president of an independent liberal arts college in Pennsylvania. He is the recipient of many awards and recognitions, including four honorary doctorate degrees for his achievements in higher education and community service.

Starting at Dominican University in 1988, during a period of transition, Dr. Fink restructured the management of the university to move it from small college to university status. He worked with the Board of Trustees and the faculty to successfully assume control of academic and fiscal affairs to put the university on a whole new course. With his expertise in management, the university's enrollment almost quadrupled while the average SAT scores rose by more than 180 points. A leader with considerable collaborative skills, he has been innovative in creating opportunities for friends of the university to support its mission. With increased fundraising, the annual operating budget rose dramatically allowing extensive campus renovation, the building of a new recreation complex, new residence halls, and a state-of-the-art science research center.

In addition to being a very competent administrator, Dr. Fink is an outstanding member of the community, serving on the boards of a variety of organizations, including the Council of Independent Colleges, the World Affairs Council of Northern California, the Marin Symphony, the American Land Conservancy, and the Commonwealth Club of California.

Mr. Speaker, Dr. Fink is a man of remarkable talent and considerable commitment, he will be missed in the community and at the university, but we honor him today and wish him well in his next endeavor. Congratulations, Joseph Fink.

HONORING FORMER REPRESENTATIVE
CARRIE P. MEEK

HON. STENY H. HOYER

OF MARYLAND

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 22, 2011

Mr. HOYER. Mr. Speaker, I had the honor and the privilege of serving in this house with Carrie Meek for ten years. The granddaughter of a slave and a daughter of sharecroppers, Carrie has always held in her heart a deep and abiding concern for the rights and the welfare of others. She made public service a life's calling, and her time as a member of this body was but one chapter in a lengthy career doing what she loves most: fighting for justice and the advancement of those who have something to contribute but are not given the chance.

When Carrie was determined to pursue a graduate degree, the high obstacle of segregation was the first of many she would overcome. Her fourteen years of service in the Florida legislature, in both the House and Senate, helped make Floridians safer from crime, opened new opportunities to Florida's students to achieve higher education, and provided affordable housing to those facing financial difficulty. Her historic election in 1992 as the first African American to represent a Florida district in Congress since Reconstruction began a decade of distinguished service here in Washington.

In Congress, Carrie championed economic development, housing, education, and access to affordable health care. Her relentless advocacy on behalf of her constituents in the aftermath of Hurricane Andrew brought over \$100 million in assistance to rebuild communities across Miami-Dade County and South Florida. Since her retirement from Congress in 2003, Carrie has continued her work at the helm of the Carrie Meek Foundation, a charitable venture committed to improving the lives of Americans by supporting programs in housing, education, health care, and community development.

I am grateful to call Carrie my friend, and I join with my colleagues in celebrating her service to the people of Florida in Congress and her continuing commitment to her fellow Americans across the country.

HONORING THE NEVADA GOES
FALL FREE COALITION

HON. SHELLEY BERKLEY

OF NEVADA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 22, 2011

Ms. BERKLEY. Mr. Speaker, today I urge my colleagues to join me in recognizing the Nevada Goes Fall Free Coalition on the occasion of the Nevada Fall Prevention Day.

The Nevada Goes Fall Free Coalition has fostered community partnerships across the aging and disabilities service network to provide education and fall prevention programs to local residents.

Nevada Fall Prevention Day is sponsored by the Nevada Goes Fall Free Coalition; a community based task force supported by the National Council on Aging.

The Coalition was formed to promote collaboration among members, to bring aware-

ness to this issue, to promote the effectiveness of risk factor identification and intervention, and to work toward the implementation of the 36 strategies contained within the National Action Plan.

It is estimated that nearly 12 percent of Nevadans are over the age of 65. Additionally, it is estimated that in the United States one-third of all people over the age of 65 will fall each year. Furthermore, over half of the seniors over the age of 80 will fall each year. This would result in medical costs that would exceed \$27 billion annually.

Falls are the leading cause of injury deaths among people over the age of 65 and the leading cause of nonfatal injuries and hospital admissions for trauma.

Falling and the fear of falling, can lead to depression, hopelessness, loss of mobility, and loss of functional independence. However, falls and injuries from falls are largely a preventable community health problem.

As the Representative for Nevada's First Congressional District, it gives me immense pride to recognize the Nevada Goes Fall Free Coalition on the occasion of the Nevada Fall Prevention Day.

20TH ANNIVERSARY OF ARMENIAN
INDEPENDENCE

HON. JOSEPH CROWLEY

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 22, 2011

Mr. CROWLEY. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to commemorate the 20th anniversary of the full declaration of Armenian independence on September 21st, and to acknowledge the numerous contributions of Armenian-Americans to the history, society, and culture of the United States.

The legacy of the Armenian people is one of strength, resilience, and determination, and we pay tribute to those who struggled for and won their independence twenty years ago today.

The thorny path to freedom is difficult for so many throughout the world, and I am proud to stand alongside the Armenian people as they continue to consolidate the gains of independence. Over the past two decades, Armenia has moved toward a modern, dynamic economy, reduced poverty and inequality, and built a vibrant civil society. I personally experienced the warmth and generosity of the Armenian people first-hand during my visit there.

Here in the United States, the contributions of Armenian-Americans are innumerable. Hundreds of thousands of Armenian-Americans have contributed to the strength, prosperity and creativity of this country by leading the way in diverse fields such as medicine, literature, business, the arts, human rights, and science. The contributions of the Armenian-American community to the United States—and in particularly to life in New York—cannot be fully appreciated quantitatively. It can only be realized by those who walk the streets of New York and interact with the Armenian-American community there and throughout the country.

All those of Armenian heritage throughout the world rightfully celebrate this national day with pride in their hearts and hope for the future. It is my honor to send congratulations to the people of Armenia, along with best wishes for a peaceful and prosperous year ahead.